

Claims:

1. An epilator apparatus for the removal of hairs (3), **characterized in that** provision is made for a tape (5) which has an adhesive effect and is fed to a plucking zone in which the hairs (3) are plucked from the skin (2).
2. The epilator apparatus according to claim 1, **characterized in that** provision is made for a pressure device (6) for applying the tape (5) against the skin (2).
3. The epilator apparatus according to claim 2, **characterized in that** the tape (5) is oriented relative to the pressure device (6) such as to be applied against the skin (2) with its adhesive side.
4. The epilator apparatus according to any one of the preceding claims, **characterized in that** in the plucking zone a deflector device is arranged which guides the tape (5) away from the skin (2).
5. The epilator apparatus according to claim 4, **characterized in that** the tape (5) is fed from the pressure device (6) to the deflector device.
6. The epilator apparatus according to any one of the claims 4 or 5, **characterized in that** the deflector device includes two juxtaposed deflector elements (7, 11) and the tape (5) is passed through between the two deflector elements (7, 11).
7. The epilator apparatus according to claim 6, **characterized in that** the two deflector elements (7, 11) are urged against each other.
8. The epilator apparatus according to any one of the claims 6 or 7, **characterized in that** the two deflector elements (7, 11) are rotatably suspended.
9. The epilator apparatus according to any one of the preceding claims, **characterized in that** the tape (5) is adapted to be unwound from a first supply reel (4).
10. The epilator apparatus according to any one of the preceding claims, **characterized in that** a take-up reel (8) is provided for receiving the tape (5).

11. The epilator apparatus according to claim 10, **characterized in that** a drive motor is provided for driving the take-up reel (8).

12. The epilator apparatus according to any one of the preceding claims, **characterized in that** provision is made for an additional tape (10) that is caused to converge with the tape (5) in the plucking zone.

13. The epilator apparatus according to any one of the preceding claims, **characterized in that** the tape (5) and/or the additional tape (10) is an adhesive tape.

14. The epilator apparatus according to any one of the preceding claims, **characterized in that** a device is provided for activating the drive motor when the epilator apparatus (1) is applied against the skin (2).

15. The epilator apparatus according to any one of the preceding claims, **characterized in that** a hair alignment device is arranged to precede the tape (5).

16. A method of removing hair (3) by means of an epilator apparatus (1), **characterized in that** a tape (5) is brought into contacting relation to the skin (2) by the epilator apparatus (1), whereby the hairs (3) adhere to the tape (5), the tape (5) is fed to a plucking zone of the epilator apparatus (1), and the hairs (3) are plucked from the skin (2) in the plucking zone.

17. The method according to claim 16, **characterized in that** the tape (5) is guided away from the skin (2) in the plucking zone and the hairs (3) are thereby lifted relative to the skin (2).

18. The method according to claim 17, **characterized in that**, together with the tape (5), the lifted hairs (3) are held clamped between two deflector elements (7, 11) and extracted from the skin (2).

19. The method according to claim 18, **characterized in that** the tape (5) sets the two deflector elements (7, 11) in rotary motion of opposite direction.

20. The method according to any one of the claims 18 or 19, **characterized in that** during plucking of the hairs (3) the surrounding skin (2) is held fixed by the deflector elements (7, 11).

21. The method according to any one of the claims 16 to 20, **characterized in that** the hairs (3) remain adhered to the tape (5) after plucking and are carried away together with the tape (5).

22. The method according to any one of the claims 16 to 21, **characterized in that** the feeding movement of the tape (5) produces a forward movement of the epilator apparatus (1) relative to the skin (2).

23. The method according to any one of the claims 16 to 21, **characterized in that** the tape (5) is driven by manually advancing the epilator apparatus (1) relative to the skin (2).